

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A method of monitoring the operation of a prosthetic assist device, the method comprising the steps of:
 - (a) ~~utilising attaching a non invasive device~~ non-invasive sensor externally to a patient to monitor ~~or serially measure~~ directly the blood flow through at least one heart ventricle to obtain a first measurement;
 - (b) separately monitoring, utilising said sensor, the blood flow through the prosthetic assist device to obtain a second measurement; and
 - (c) combining said two measurements to determine an overall native to prosthetic flow index so as to determine the effectiveness of the operation of said prosthetic assist device.
2. (Currently Amended) A method as claimed in claim 1 wherein said non invasive non-invasive device monitoring ~~or serial measurement~~ comprises continuous wave Doppler flow monitoring of the heart.
3. (Currently Amended) A method as claimed in claim 1 wherein the heart is monitored ~~or serially measured~~ from a transducer placed adjacent the suprasternal notch.
4. (Original) A method as claimed in claim 1 wherein said method is repeated under a number of different operational conditions for a patient including walking and/or running.
5. (Original) A method as claimed in claim 1 wherein said method is repeated under a number of different pharmacological conditions for a patient.